APPENDIX A (clean version to amended Claims 1, 5, 10 and 13 and new Claims 17-20)

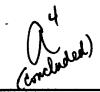
- 1. (Amended) A method for embossing a fibrous web incorporating recycled pulp containing contaminants to improve the bulk and softness of the web by passing the web through a nip formed by a pair of rotating rollers, wherein the contaminants will not damage the rollers, the method comprising:
 - providing a first embossing roller having an outer surface, said outer surface having a a) plurality of male protuberances thereon corresponding to a desired embossed pattern;
- b) providing a second embossing roll having an outer surface having a plurality of female recessed portions which are matched to the male protuberances of the first roll;
 - c) wherein one of said first and second embossing rollers has a Shore A hardness of 40-65 and the other roller has a Shore A hardness of at least about 90; and
 - d) placing the rolls in contact to form a nip between the rolls, with the protuberances of the first roll entering the recesses of the second roll as the rolls rotate together; and passing a fibrous web through the nip formed by the rolls to emboss the web wherein the roller having the Shore A hardness of 40-65 will deform if any contaminants are encountered in the fibrous web such that a fibrous web including recycled pulp containing contaminants may be embossed without causing excess wear or damage to the embossing rollers.
 - 5. (Amended) Apparatus for embossing a fibrous web incorporating recycled pulp containing contaminants so that the contaminants will not damage the rollers, comprising:





- a) a first rotating embossing roller having an outer surface, said outer surface having a plurality of male protuberances thereon corresponding to a desired embossed pattern;
- b) a second rotating embossing roller having an outer surface having a plurality of female recessed portions which are matched to the male protuberances of the first roller;
- c) wherein one of said first and second embossing rollers have differing hardnesses; and
- d) wherein the first and second rollers are disposed to form a nip between the rolls, with the protuberances of the first roll entering the recesses of the second roll as the rolls rotate together; to permit the fibrous web through the nip formed by the rollers, wherein the roller having the lesser hardness will deform upon contact with a contaminant in the fibrous web wherein one of said first and second embossing rollers has a Shore hardness of 40-65 and the other roller has a Shore A hardness of at least about 95 such that a fibrous web including recycled pulp containing contaminants may be embossed without causing excess wear or damage to the embossing rollers.
- 10. (Amended) A method to update paper embossing machinery having matched pairs of embossing rollers to enable the machinery to accommodate recycled pulp that contains contaminants, comprising the steps of:
 - a) providing a embossing roller comprising material having a Shore A hardness of 40 65;
 - b) utilizing one of each pair of embossing rollers to produce a matched opposite roller from the embossing roller of material having a Shore A hardness of 40-65; and
 - c) replacing one of each matched pair of embossing rollers with the roller produced from material having a Shore A hardness of 40-65 such that a fibrous web including





recycled pulp containing contaminants may be embossed without causing excess wear or damage to the embossing rollers.

- 13. (Amended) A method for embossing a fibrous web incorporating recycled pulp containing contaminants to improve the bulk and softness of the web by passing the web through a nip formed by a pair of rotating rollers, wherein the contaminants will not damage the rollers, the method comprising:
 - a) providing a first embossing roller having an outer surface, said outer surface having a plurality of male protuberances thereon corresponding to a desired embossed pattern;
 - b) providing a second embossing roll having an outer surface having a plurality of female recessed portions which are matched to the male protuberances of the first roll;
 - c) wherein at least one of said first and second embossing rollers is a laser engraved roller and has a Shore A hardness of from about 40 to about 65; and
 - d) placing the rolls in contact to form a nip between the rolls, with the protuberances of the first roll entering the recesses of the second roll as the rolls rotate together; and passing a fibrous web through the nip formed by the rolls to emboss the web wherein the roller having the Shore A hardness of from about 40 to about 65 will deform if any contaminants are encountered in the fibrous web such that a fibrous web including recycled pulp containing contaminants may be embossed without causing excess wear or damage to the embossing rollers.
- 17. (New) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the contaminants in the recycled pulp include stickies.
- 18. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein thr apparatus is thereby adapted to emboss a web including recycled pulp containing stickies.



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19. (New) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the recycled pulp contains stickies.

20. (New) The method according to Claim 13, wherein the recycled pulp contains stickies.